

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the final Office Action dated November 16, 2005, is believed to be fully responsive to the points of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment and favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Regarding the Drawings, the Examiner has objected to the Drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Applicants have considered these objections and amended the claims as follows. Claims 16-18, 21 and 22 are cancelled above. Claim 20 is amended above. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claims 1-11 and 13-15, 19, and 20 are pending. Claims 12, 16-18, 21 and 22 are cancelled above. Claims 1, 6 and 20 are amended above. No new matter has been added by the amendments and support for the amendments can be found, for example, in FIG. 5 of the present application.

The Examiner objected to Claims 18 and 22 under 37 CFR 1.75(c). Claims 18 and 22 are cancelled above.

Claims 1-11, 13, 18, 19 and 22 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,093,869 (Hoffmann), in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,743,777 (Shilling). Claims 14-16 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Hoffman, in view of Schilling in further view of US Patent No. 5,220,228 (Sibata). Applicants respectfully submit the following comments in support of the patentability of the Claims. Reconsideration of the rejections in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

1. Claims 1-5 and 13:

Claim 1 has been amended, and support for the amendment can be found, for example in FIG. 5 of the present application. Claim 1 is directed to a synchronous electric machine and recites, in part, that the DC field coils and the AC field coils are circumferentially arranged at the same radial distance from the shaft, as shown for example in FIG. 5 of the present application.

In contrast, the machine of Hoffman employs concentrically arranged DC field coils 57 and AC field coil 62, as shown in FIG. 2 of Hoffman. Applicants note that FIG. 3 of Hoffman is a partial electric schematic diagram of the alternator shown in FIG. 2. In addition, Hoffman winds AC field coil 62 about air cores.

Applicants note that Schilling employs concentrically arranged DC exciter stator winding 44 and multiphase AC exciter field winding 42, as shown in FIG. 3 of Schilling. Thus, Schilling does not supply the above noted deficiency of Hoffman with respect the circumferential arrangement of the DC field coils and the AC field coils of Claim 1.

For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the cited art, either alone or in combination. Further, as claims 2-5 and 13 depend from Claim 1, these claims are also patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least these reasons. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 1-5 and 13 under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

2. Claims 6-11 and 19:

Claim 6 has been amended, and support for the amendment can be found, for example in FIG. 5 of the present application. Claim 6 is directed to an electric machine and recites in part that the DC field coils and the AC field coils are circumferentially arranged at the same radial distance from the shaft. In contrast Hoffman employs concentrically arranged DC field coils 57 and AC field coil 62, as shown in FIG. 2 of Hoffman. Similarly, Schilling employs concentrically arranged DC exciter stator winding 44 and multiphase AC exciter field winding 42, as shown in FIG. 3 of Schilling.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that neither Hoffman nor Schilling, either alone or in combination, teach these recitations of Claim 6. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 6 is patentably distinguishable over the cited art. Further, as claims 7-11 and 19 depend from Claim 6, these claims are also patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least these reasons. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 6-11 and 19 under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

3. Claims 14, 15 and 20:

Claims 14, 15 and 20 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Hoffman, in view of Schilling, in further view of Sibata. Claims 14 and 15 depend from Claim 1. Accordingly, Claims 14 and 15 are patentably distinguishable over Hoffman and Schilling, for at least the reasons presented above with reference to Claim 1.

Claim 20 depends from Claim 6. Accordingly, Claim 20 is patentably distinguishable over Hoffman and Schilling, for at least the reasons presented above with reference to Claim 6.

The Examiner cites Sibata to provide the flared extension recitation. However, Sibata doesn't supply the above-discussed deficiencies of Hoffman and Schilling with respect to Claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 14, 15 and 20 are patentably distinguishable over the cited art, either alone or in combination.

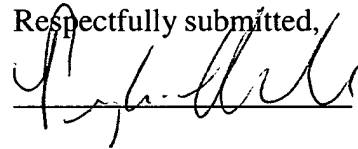
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this Amendment and any other fees applicable to this application to the Assignee's Deposit Account No. 07-0868.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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